

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE, January 20, 2004

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "1st Class Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Stephanie Hill
Name (Print)

Stephanie Hill
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: ROSENGART, Todd K.) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Application No.: 10/706,506) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Filed: November 12, 2003) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)
Docket No. 3183-002-01) Customer No.: 33432

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CUTTING A HEART VALVE

as
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 20, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Since this application has a filing date after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents/Patent Application Publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear

Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/706,506

on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

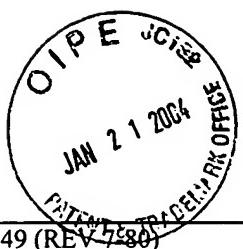
It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

Respectfully submitted,



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Page 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80)		Atty. Docket No. 3183-002-01	Application No. 10/706,506
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		APPLICANT: Rosengart, Todd K.	
		Filing Date: November 12, 2003	Group Art Unit: Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
	3,946,503	03/30/76	Buchan et al.	35	9	
	5,352,240	10/04/94	Ross	623	2	
	5,480,424	02/02/96	Cox	623	2	
	5,688,261	11/18/97	Amirkhanian et al.	606	17	
	5,722,970	03/03/98	Colvard	606	3	
	5,799,282	08/25/98	Rakshit et al.	705	2	
	5,823,948	10/20/98	Ross, Jr. et al.	600	300	
	5,984,959	11/16/99	Robertson et al.	623	2	
	5,999,909	12/07/99	Rakshit et al.	705	2	
	6,014,630	01/11/00	Jeacock et al.	705	3	
	6,149,440	11/21/00	Clark et al.	434	322	
	6,171,112 B1	01/09/01	Clark et al.	434	322	
	6,203,553 B1	03/20/01	Robertson et al.	606	139	
	6,309,417 B1	10/30/01	Spence et al.	623	2.11	
	6,413,274 B1	07/02/02	Pedros	623	2.11	
	6,638,303 B1	10/28/03	Campbell	623	2.2	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
		WO 99/59482	11/25/99	WIPO	A61B	17/32	Yes

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.